

at station premises and trains include installation of Integrated Security System under which 80 stations have already been provided with Internet Protocol based CCTV surveillance system, operationalisation of 24x7 security Helpline System through security Control Rooms of RPF, networking of RPF posts and Security Control Rooms under RPF Security Management System (RSMS), allotment of 4000 CUG SIMs for RPF escort parties to render security related assistance to passengers on real time basis etc.

(d) There is no separate Plan Head meant for “electronic security and surveillance” etc. However, works relating to creation of assets and procurement of plant and equipment etc. relating to the security establishment are undertaken and expenditure incurred on them in Demand No. 16 under Plan Outlay by different zonal Railways.

#### **Measures to increase safety of trains**

1904. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any measures to increase the safety of trains in light of increasing railway accidents and the recent derailment of a Bangalore-Kochi train;

(b) if so, the details of measures being undertaken in this regard;

(c) whether Government has considered private sector participation in order to ensure usage of newer and safer technology; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposals made therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being used to prevent accidents include complete track circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), LED Signals, Vigilance Control Device (VCD), usage of 60kg rails and Pre-stressed Concrete Sleepers, long rail panels, better welding technology, progressively

increased use of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) Coaches, Centre Buffer Couplers with Integral Coach Factory (ICF) Coaches, etc.

(c) and (d) Sectoral Guidelines of Domestic/Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) issued in November, 2014 have identified areas for such investment including construction and maintenance of Road Over Bridge (ROB)/Road Under Bridge (RUB)/Limited Height Subway, installation and maintenance of safety systems for level crossing gates, installation and maintenance of Asset Failure Detection systems (Track/Over Head Equipment (OHE)/Rolling Stock/Signalling, etc.) and automatic self propelled Track/OHE parameter recording cars. No investment proposal has been received in this regard.

#### **High speed rail corridor between New Delhi and Chennai**

1905. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering any fast track project to build the world's second longest High Speed Rail Corridor project between New Delhi and Chennai with the help of Chinese Railways;

(b) if so, the details of project and the salient features thereof; and

(c) whether Government has received preliminary report on its costing and investment required for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) As per an Action Plan to carry forward the Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Railways and National Railway Administration, Government of People's Republic of China signed on 18.09.2014, a Feasibility Study of a High Speed link between Delhi-Chennai has been agreed to be taken up with Chinese assistance.

(c) No, Sir.

#### **Shortage of reserved seats**

1906. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of reserved seats in various express trains running through various important cities of West Bengal, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and